

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT

IN CHARGE OF

LAVINIA L. DOCK



THE NEW OWNERSHIP OF THE BRITISH JOURNAL

THE nurses of Great Britain have formed a company on business lines and have become the owners of the *British Journal of Nursing*, a most praiseworthy and excellent step, upon which we heartily congratulate them. We also warmly applaud the attitude of the fearless and able Editor and Associate Editor of the *Journal*, throughout their whole editorial career, culminating in this disinterested step. We shall take it upon our individual self now to say what Mrs. Fenwick and Miss Breay never would say themselves, that their work upon this *Journal* has been of a rarely disinterested and unselfish nature. The early history of the *Journal* was not unlike that of Garrison and his *Liberator*, for the cause of organization, self-government and higher standards of education and life conditions which the *British Journal* (then the *Nursing Record*) stood for were opposed bitterly by a ring of narrow, autocratic caste supporters, and every method that hostility could devise was taken against it. In the early years Mrs. Fenwick supported it out of her own pocket, for principle's sake, because she was making a fight for principle and progress, not conducting a journal for profit or as a business venture. The lay nursing journals that sneer and try to impute self-interested motives to nurse editors do not understand the actual motives that impel them. For years the editor of the *Nursing Record* stood up against personal vilification, commercial tactics to "freeze out," and the enmity of strong rivals. She conquered them all, brought the principle of organization to a triumphant vindication, and made her *Journal* an undisputed power. Now, when it is solidly established and successful, both financially and professionally, she makes it over into the hands of the nursing profession. It is the right thing to do, and in line with the whole policy of the *Journal*.

MISS ISLA STEWART, matron of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, has been appointed on the nursing board of the Imperial Military Nursing Service of Great Britain. All of Miss Stewart's many friends

will be gratified at this conspicuous and well-deserved compliment to Miss Stewart, who combines broad-minded and far-seeing intelligence in nursing affairs with rich experience and a native geniality of temperament.

ANOTHER richly-deserved honor conferred upon an Englishwoman has come to Miss Louisa Stevenson, who has been made an LL.D. by Edinburgh University. Nurses in all continents owe a meed of reverence and affection to this gifted and distinguished woman for her unceasing and influential care for nursing progress, and the higher education of women.

THE nurses of the General Hospital of Birmingham have formed a League and have issued a very excellent league journal.

THE graduate nurses of La Source training-school at Lausanne have formed an association among themselves, for mutual acquaintance and stimulus, provision for sickness and trouble, and to uphold good educational standards and discourage the entrance of imperfectly trained workers into nursing. "La Source" is a very interesting school on "free" lines. It was described in the papers sent to the Nursing Congress of the World's Fair in Chicago.

The British Journal of Nursing quotes a New Zealand nurse, lately in England, as follows, in regard to the Nurses' Registration Act of that country, which has now been in force there for four years. It is not only of proved utility to both doctors and nurses, but it has been most useful in bringing the training-schools into line, and in improving their systems of education on account of the healthy rivalry induced between them by the Central Examination instituted under the Act. The benefit to the public is also obvious. They can now distinguish between the fully trained and the amateur, and they are not slow to recognise this advantage, or to avail themselves of the services of nurses whose knowledge has stood the test of the examination imposed.

THE honorary secretary of the Association of the United Provinces and Punjab, Miss J. W. Thorpe, has become a collaborator in the *British Journal of Nursing*.